

ABSTRACT

Please replace the pending abstract with the following newly-submitted abstract:

A method of protecting a plant or part of a plant from insect or nematode infestation is disclosed herein. The method includes the steps of: (a) culturing cells or tissue from the plants; (b) inserting into the genome of the cells or tissue a sequence coding for assisting protease inhibitors selected from the group of proteins containing at least one type I repeated thyroglobulin domain, with a promoter sequence active in the plant to cause expression of the protein at levels which provide an insect or nematode controlling amount of the protein; and (c) regenerating resistant whole plants from the cells or tissue. Also disclosed is a transgenic plant or its sexual progeny which is resistant to attack by one or more insects or nematodes having digestive cysteine proteases. Also disclosed is an expression vehicle that includes a promoter effective to promote expression of a downstream coding sequence in plant cells, the expression vehicle being effective to express in plant cells insect controlling amounts of a protein that includes at least one type I repeated thyroglobulin domain.